

# SCKA NEWSLETTER

SouthCentral Katahdin Hair Sheep Association

Serving Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, & Texas

Encouraging and accepting memberships from throughout the USA

DECEMBER 2009

## Officers

President: Earl Burris  
Vice President: John Cannon  
Secretary: Roxanne Newton  
Treasurer: Mickie Burris  
Promotions: Mark Dennis  
Newsletter: Mike Perry

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Gaylin Ratliff 2012  
Howard Brown 2010  
John Cannon 2010  
Steve Cantrell 2011  
Mike Perry 2011

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Report	2
ET & SV Market Report	2
Market Report	3
Promotions Report	3
Article by Jackie Nix	4
Article by Jackie Nix	5
KHSI Update	6
Kat on the Mountain	7
Wanted Katahdins	8
Recipe	8
Katahdins For Sale	9
Calendar of Events	10

## Welcome Our New Members

George & Sharon Adams, Avalon Farm of Palestine Texas  
Larry & Donna Elmore, TruBlu Farms of St. Matthews South Carolina  
Rob & Joy Lorens, Lorens Longleaf Ranch of Carriere Mississippi  
Julian & Edie Oaks, Oaks Farm of Hanceville, Alabama

## USDA Agricultural Research Service Sheep & Goat Field Day

The 2009 USDA, Agricultural Research Service Sheep & Goat Field Day event in Booneville, Arkansas was held October 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>. There were approximately sixty producers present and that number appeared to be equally divided between Sheep and Goat Producers. As SCKA President, Earl and I were privileged to represent our association by attending the event. It proved to be two days filled with an abundance of valuable information. While there, we were able to set up and man the SCKA Display / Booth, handing out literature and answering questions on Katahdin and the association.

The meeting kicked off on Friday with a FAMACHA / Parasite Control Workshop conducted by Dr. James Miller from LSU. Unfortunately, due to illnesses and uncooperative weather prior to the event, not as many attendees showed up as they had originally planned for the two day event, but the day went quite well and was enjoyed by all.

Saturday morning started off bright and early with a nice Welcome from Dr. Joan Burke, USDA, ARS. She kicked off a day full of impressive speakers with a very informative session on *Grazing Management for Parasite Control - Organic and Conventional*. Next we heard another informative talk on *Alternative Parasite Control* by Dr. James Miller, LSU followed by Dr. Steve Hart of Langston University who spoke on *Forages and Browse for Goats*. Susan Schoenian with the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension really got everyone's attention with her presentation titled *Making Money with Sheep & Goats*. After lunch, Dr. Richard Browning, Tennessee State University presented the results of a study conducted by himself and Dr. Maria Leite-Browning, Alabama A&M University titled *Meat Goat Breed Comparison Study at Tennessee State*. The final presentation of the day was *Health Program for Sheep & Goats* by

Dr. Niki Whitley, North Carolina A&T.

Once the last speaker was finished, the group was treated to a tour of the

Research Service "Farm" to view the animals, pens and handling facilities. They are doing some very interesting work there with an impressive group of animals.

It proved to be a very productive and worthwhile trip filled with valuable information. It's always nice to "talk Katahdin", whether it's meeting with fellow Katahdin producers or talking to those interested in starting a flock of their own!

Hats off to all who had a part in putting the 2009 ARS Sheep and Goat Field Day together. This was another excellent example of Continuing Education for today's producer.

Mickie Burris  
Shackaloea Creek Ranch  
Smithdale, MS

## President's Message

This posting finds us at that time of the year when many of us hope we've made or are making the right decision on which rams to use on which ewe group. We hope you've already made preparations for getting these animals through the winter and on to the next lambing season whether to feed, graze, or both. Most of us are trying to dry out enough to plant winter grazing while others are in drought conditions and will be taking the feed and hay route. Whichever group you find yourself in you can be rewarded as the demand for good Katahdin sheep is there.

Mickie and I had the privilege to attend the 2009 Scott County Hair Sheep Assn. Meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was

held at Natural Tunnel State Park and Cove Ridge Center in Rye Cove, Virginia. SCKA was well represented including several members who also hold memberships in SCHSA. Hats off to Jay Greenstone, President SCHSA for a well planned and informative event. Katahdins were well represented and received in the Private Treaty Sale held during the gathering.

October 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> presented us with another opportunity to represent our association. We traveled to Booneville, Arkansas to set up the SCKA Marketing & Promotions Booth at the 2009 Sheep and Goat Field Day held at the USDA-ARS Dale Bumpers Small Farms Research Center and the South Logan County Fairgrounds. Dr. Joan Burke is

the director of this facility and she together with a great group of speakers filled the day with valuable research information. Ending the day Dr. Burke took us to the Research Facility where we saw a great flock of Katahdin.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for June 11-12, 2010 and plan to be in Prague, OK for the 2010 SCKA Meeting & Private Treaty Sale to be held at Howard & Lavonne Brown's place.

If you have suggestions or concerns about YOUR association please contact me or any of your directors.

Thanks for your support,

Earl Burriss

President SCKA

### How to WIN a Registered Katahdin Ewe Lamb

#### Requirements:

1. Must submit an essay (no more than 2 pages) to Howard Brown, Lazy B Livestock, 8362NS 3550 Rd., Prague, OK 74864.
2. Each applicant must include a "Letter of Recommendation" from Parents, Guardian or Youth Advisor. (someone to haul the ewe and to see she is fed)
3. Must be postmarked by June 1, 2010.
4. Need to be between 9 and 18 years of age.
5. Agree to breed ewe to Registered RR Katahdin Ram.
6. Agree to exhibit ewe at shows and fairs in 2010.
7. Must be present to win (at Prague OK on 6/11 & 6/12).
- 8. Winner must submit a report to Howard & Lavonne Brown**

## Eastern Tennessee & Southwest Virginia Market Report

By: Jay Greenstone

This is my first time at writing a market report. Here goes!! We here in south west VA are blessed to have Food City buying "hair lambs" at \$3.20 a Lb chilled carcass wt 55-60 lb carcass. This in my past experience works to be \$1.20 to 1.50 live wt which is hard to beat. There are many variables of course, ie rams verses weathers and ewe lambs for slaughter.

As we approach the holiday season I look for thick 70-80 lb lambs to bring \$1.20 to 1.60 lb live wt. Christmas and New

Years would be great times to sell lambs held over as tremendous demand for 80 lb lambs for roasting. (It's usually best to sell 2 weeks before the holiday). One point to remember is lamb prices historically have begin to raise at the start of the New Year.

If one still has lambs available, I would contact Universities and hospitals looking for ethnic populations to sell lambs. You may benefit from getting a long term customer. Remember, these people like to perform there own slaughter and

will usually take the lamb in the car home.

On the breeding sheep side of things in our area ewe lambs, commercial hair ewe lambs are bringing \$150.00 to \$180.00 dollars a head. Buyer be aware of the \$75.00 sale barn ewe lambs that look cheap but usually put you out of business!!!. Good commercial hair bred ewes bring \$200 to \$250 each, if you can find them.

Jay A Greenstone  
[SilverMapleSheep@yahoo.com](mailto:SilverMapleSheep@yahoo.com)  
 Home: 276-346-2444  
 Cell: 276-365-2424

## Promotions Report

By: Mark Dennis

Katahdin breeders are very excited this time of the year watching their breeding operation. Many say that they never see their Katahdin ram at work but the ewes still get bred. Those Katahdin boys work at night! Some of the SCKA members have been doing a fine job promoting Katahdins and their operation, but, we can all still do more. It appears that only a few members offer information about SCKA. SCKA has brochures, name cards, bumper stickers, banners, and the booth available for you to use to promote Katahdins.

I just received a phone call from a very nice lady inquiring about my ram lamb 09-06, she only had three ewe's as a starting flock. I invited her and her family to visit our operation and to answer any questions that they may have.

I offered to mail a SCKA newsletter and brochure to her as well. She was excited to learn more, the SCKA member who sold her the three ewe's never mentioned SCKA at all, can you believe that all of the information SCKA has available to give away to new folks interested in Katahdins yours for the asking?

The past four months have been busy. SCKA has been represented (by a SCKA member) at the following Expo's and Gatherings that I know of with SCKA brochures, name cards, and bumper stickers available for the taking: Katahdin Hair Sheep Int. Expo & Sale, Corvallis, OR (Roxanne Newton, Howard Covington, Howard Brown), Scott County Hair Sheep Assoc. Field Day & Private Treaty Sale, Rye

Cove, VA (Jay Greenstone, Kenneth & Connie Jessee, Earl & Mickie Burris, Mark & Sara Dennis), 2009 Sheep and Goat Field Day, USDA-ARS Dale Bumpers Small Farms Research Center Booneville, AR (Earl & Mickie Burris), Sunbelt Expo Moultrie, GA (John & Mitzie Cannon, Mark & Sara Dennis), North American International Livestock Expo (NAILE) Louisville, KY (Kenneth & Connie Jessee, Mark Dennis). At all the above places your fellow members made information available to folks interested in Katahdin Shedding Sheep. The Katahdin Fellowship was best of all.

Please remember to send Mike articles and interesting happens in your area pertaining to Katahdins. God Bless, have a joyous Holiday Season, and Promote Katahdins!

## Market Report

By: Mark Dennis

In our last Market Report I said that it was HOT and DRY in South Louisiana, well, that has all changed. For many of us, breeding season started on September 1, unfortunately EPDs results that were sent in for evaluation were not returned until November 1, which was not much help this year in assisting in our breeding program. Then the rains came, October, our normal dry month was our WET month! Winter grass was planted very late this year.

I'm excited to inform members that we will have a new continuing Market Report from SCKA member, Jay Greenstone, President of Scott County Hair Sheep Assoc. (SCHSA) in Gate City, VA. Welcome Jay!

I recently visited with Jim

Mansfield, President of "New American Lamb" while attending the NAILE in Louisville, KY and a new member of SCKA. Jim's Katahdin operation is marketing Katahdin MEAT grown on his farm and purchasing from local Katahdin breeders (12 at this time) to meet the demand for Katahdin MEAT. We will have more information about Jim's Four Hills Farm LLC, in Salvisa, KY at a later date.

I attended three Katahdin Marketing/Promotion Expo's this Fall with Katahdins on display. Interest is very high in all areas to replace cattle and goat operations and to start new with Katahdin sheep. The problems seem to be acquiring good commercial Katahdin ewes to get started. A few sources have been located for commer-

cial ewe lambs that will be available late spring 2010 (You may want to get your name on the order list).

Some SCKA breeders have started an order list for 2011 for delivery of Registered Katahdin ewe lambs. It is mystifying to me when we see such a high demand for Katahdin Ewes at every gathering, and yet you can visit the KHSI web-site "For Sale" page and see RR Rams and Ewes listed at less than meat price.

The Katahdin breeders who are successful have invested in a website to promote and market their operation, isn't it time that you step up and establish yours? Or update it to reflect your current operation status? Please use the services that the SCKA offers its members in marketing your Katahdins.

## Take Extra Care with Hooves in Wet Weather

By: Jackie Nix

Horse folks are often fond of the saying – No hoof- no horse. Well, horses aren't the only animals in which we need to worry about hoof soundness. Hoof soundness in sheep is absolutely critical. Grazing sheep that are lame won't venture out and forage well and thus may gain less weight or even lose weight. Breeding rams that are lame will not travel to seek out ewes in heat and may lose libido all together. Prolonged wet conditions make foot rot complaints common.

### What Causes Foot Rot?

Foot rot is caused by an infection of anaerobic bacteria in the foot. The exact species of bacteria will differ slightly among species; however, there it has been suggested that bacteria from one species can infect another (i.e. cattle foot rot bacteria can infect sheep or goats and vice versa). Some of these bacteria are present naturally in the environment (present in manure and the soil) while others are brought in by infected animals or human-caused contamination. These bacteria can survive in the soil from 1 to 10 months and even longer within hoof tissues. These organisms cannot penetrate, intact healthy skin and hoof tissue. Cuts, bruises, puncture wounds, or severe abrasions permit entry. Therefore, conditions that result in foot injury will predispose animals to contracting foot rot. These conditions include, but are not limited to: sharp rocks,

rough frozen ground, sharp stubble, and abrasive surfaces. Injuries are more likely to occur when the tissues of the feet are swollen and soft due to continued wetness. Also, the bacteria survive better in the environment during wet conditions.

### Signs of Foot Rot

Foot rot is characterized first by a swelling of the tissue between the toes and eventually necrotic, foul-smelling pockets in the hoof in which the hoof wall separates from the horny tissues. The initial reddening of the skin is sometimes known as foot scald. If left untreated, the infection may progress up the foot into deeper structures such as the joints, tendons and bone. Other conditions causing lameness are often misdiagnosed as foot rot. These include: sole ulcers and abscesses, sole abrasions, interdigital dermatitis, cuts and punctures, infected corns and fractures. Also, livestock that develop fescue toxicity grazing endophyte-infected fescue pastures, causing loss of blood circulation to the feet and lameness, are sometimes misdiagnosed as having foot rot. For these reasons, it is important to examine the affected animal (s) closely to confirm that the problem is in fact foot rot.

### Transmission

Primarily, contagious foot rot is spread from infected animals. The organism travels from the infected animal to the soil to non-

infected animals. Problems are usually introduced into a "clean" herd by purchase of an infected animal (especially true for sheep and goats), mixing "clean" animals with infected animals or by using a facility (such as sale barn) after infected animals. Humans can also spread the disease on their boots.

### Prevention

The best prevention is to never bring contagious foot rot onto your farm in the first place. Do not purchase animals from herds that show signs of lameness. Always quarantine new animals (from any source) before introducing them into your herd. You may want to run sheep through a footbath or spot treat foot rot infections with aggressive hoof trimming and topical application of zinc sulfate solutions or other acceptable treatments. In severe cases antibiotics may be in order. Consult your local veterinarian for more information. Also be mindful of farm-to-farm transmission by humans. This is especially important with sheep operations that host tours and field days. Insist that visitors wash their boots in a footbath of diluted Clorox or zinc sulfate solution. Many larger sheep farms provide such washing stations in the parking area for visitors. Another option is to provide them with disposable boot covers or provide your own footwear. Another consideration is to not allow visitors to drive their vehicles into your pastures or driving lanes, thus transferring manure and bacteria via the tires. Keep sheep hooves

properly trimmed. During routine trimming, trim animals with healthy feet first so as to not spread the bacteria within the herd. Then, as you work on infected animals, disinfect your hoof shears between animals with a Clorox solution. Sheep that display chronic foot rot symptoms should be culled, as they will act as a reservoir for the foot rot organisms for the entire herd. Management practices that help reduce hoof damage can help to reduce the incidence of foot rot in your herd. Maintain good drainage in and around watering and feeding areas. You may also think about placing concrete pads in these areas to reduce the amount of mud. Do not utilize sharp gravel in travel lanes. During winter months, smooth out areas of rough frozen mud. Proper mineral nutrition, especially zinc, can also help to improve hoof integrity and strength and reduce the incidences of foot rot.

### **Role of Zinc in Hoof Integrity**

Zinc is a critical nutrient involved in the maintenance of epithelial tissues. Zinc is estimated to be a component of over 200 enzymes. Zinc's role in maintaining hoof tissues includes (but is not limited to) stimulating growth of epidermal cells, production of keratin (sulfur containing protein which is the primary component of the hoof), improved wound healing and improved cellular integrity. Zinc-deficient sheep exhibit increased claw and hoof disorders as well as skin disorders and poor wound healing. Improved zinc

nutrition has been shown to improve hoof integrity in deficient animals. Marginal to deficient levels of zinc are common in many soil types across the United States. Additionally, high levels of naturally occurring antagonists such as iron, molybdenum, and sulfur are common in several areas. Both of these factors make proper trace mineral supplementation a smart investment to help insure that sheep receive the levels of zinc needed to express their true genetic potential. Sheep producers who have observed lameness and/or other hoof problems should consider use of one of the Sweetlix® line of sheep supplement products to receive NRC recommended levels of zinc, in addition to other trace minerals and vitamins.

Sweetlix® offers a variety of complete mineral-vitamin supplements for sheep including:

For sheep in areas with adequate to excessive copper:

#### **Super Sheep Fortifier with CTC**

#### **Super Sheep Free Choice Mineral**

#### **Super Sheep Fortifier with Bovatec®**

#### **EnProAl® Sheep Block**

For sheep in copper deficient areas:

#### **All-In-One Pressed Protein Block**

#### **16:8 Sheep & Goat Mineral Mineral/Vitamin Molasses Pressed Block**

#### **Free Choice Mineral**

All Sweetlix® supplement products help sheep attain maximum performance by providing complete vitamin

and trace mineral supplementation including **selenium** and **zinc** in a very bioavailable form. These products are scientifically designed especially for the nutritional needs of sheep. Ask for **Sweetlix®** by name at your local feed store or visit [www.sweetlix.com](http://www.sweetlix.com) or call 1-87SWEETLIX (1-877-933-8549) to learn more about Sweetlix® brand supplement products for goats. In summary, incidences of foot rot increase during prolonged wet weather. There are many management practices that you can employ to reduce foot rot on your farm. Included among these is proper supplementation of zinc. Many sheep show deficiency symptoms including: depressed immunity, decreased conception rates, increased days open, and hoof problems. If your sheep experience any of these symptoms, you should strongly consider use of one of the Sweetlix® supplement products for sheep listed above to deliver recommended levels of zinc to help sheep reach their maximum genetic potential.

*Jackie Nix is a nutritionist with Sweetlix® (<http://www.sweetlix.com>). You can contact her at [jnix@sweetlix.com](mailto:jnix@sweetlix.com) or 1-800-325-1486 for questions or to learn more about the Sweetlix® line of mineral and protein supplements for sheep, goats, cattle, horses and wildlife. Bovatec is a registered trademark of Alpharma Animal Health, Fort Lee, NJ.*

*March 2006*

## KHSI Update

Katahdin Hair Sheep International held their Annual Expo in Corvallis, Oregon September 10-12. The workshops were excellent, food was exceptional and a great time for all. They even imported a Southern Expert to talk about parasites, Dr Jim Miller from the Louisiana State University Veterinary Medical School in Baton Rouge. Dr Jim Miller is very active in the Southern Consortium for Small Ruminant Parasite Control ([www.scsrpc.org](http://www.scsrpc.org))

At the KHSI membership meeting in Corvallis, the membership approved a 2010 budget that includes \$1500 grants (up to \$500/group) budget to help regional groups with promoting Katahdins. The KHSI Board will publish the requirements for the mini-grants in the Spring 2010 issue of the Katahdin Hairald. Howard Brown is the current chair of the committee that will be presenting the Regional Grant draft to the KHSI Board for approval.

In the Winter 2009 issue of the Katahdin Hairald (being mailed soon), read about registered Katahdins being exported to Scotland and to Chile. There is much interest in Katahdins in Europe and South America. Once flocks are established in both of these locations it will be much easier, due to health export protocols, to export to the rest of Europe and South America.

### Youth Program at ASI's Annual Meeting

**January 22 and 23, 2010**

**Sheraton Downtown Nashville, TN**

The Youth Program at the American Sheep Industry's annual meeting is half price for youth.

Friday evening (1/22) events include a pizza dinner, introduction to ASI (American Sheep Industry), information about speakers and an Ice Cream Social.

Saturday events include a birthing demonstration, parasite identification, meat grading, meat cutting demonstration and end at 5 PM.

On both days, there is a mix of breaks, more fun and education. [www.sheepusa.org](http://www.sheepusa.org) for more information.

### 2010 Hairald Calendar

KHSI periodically posts information on sheep sales and sheep events as a public service. Posting sale and event information does not imply endorsement or verification of the claims of any sale or event. Sales and events posted are not sanctioned by KHSI unless otherwise noted. Contact the KHSI Operations Office to ask for your event or sale to be posted. 479-444-8441 or [info@katahdins.org](mailto:info@katahdins.org)

**January 20-23, 2010.** American Sheep Industry's Annual Meeting and Convention. Nashville, TN. [www.sheepusa.org/Annual\\_Convention](http://www.sheepusa.org/Annual_Convention) or 303-771-3500 for more information. Convention includes exhibits, educational presentations, annual business meeting, reports from USDA, tours and other presentations.

**January 22-23, 2010.** Youth Program at American Sheep Industry's at the Annual Convention. Nashville, TN. [www.sheepusa.org/Annual\\_Convention](http://www.sheepusa.org/Annual_Convention) or 303-771-3500 for more information. Program will include social events (pizza & ice cream), information about ASI's activities and a learning program (parasite identification, birthing demonstration, meat grading, meat cutting demo). Starts 5 PM Friday and concludes 5 PM Saturday).

**January 31, 2010.** KHSI Dues are due for the calendar year 2010 on or before this date. Remember that our new online renewal service is available at the KHSI website: [www.katahdins.org](http://www.katahdins.org) (payment by credit card or bank transfer via PayPal). Also, make sure that you return the renewal form that will be sent by US Postal Service or via Email (if you have signed up for KHSI Email News) to update your listing information. Remember! All dues payments should now be sent to KHSI Operations in Fayetteville, AR.

**May 15, 2010.** Request hair coat inspections for your flock (if needed). Contact KHSI Operations Office, 479-444-8441 or [info@katahdins.org](mailto:info@katahdins.org)

**June 1, 2010.** SCKA – How to Win a Registered Ewe Lamb\*\*. Entries must be postmarked by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Send to Howard & Lavonne Brown, 8362 S 3550 Rd, Prague, OK. 74864.

**June 11-12, 2010.** South Central Katahdin Association Annual Meeting & Private Treaty Sale. Howard & Lavonne Brown's Lazy B Livestock Ranch in Prague, Oklahoma. Event includes speakers, fellowship and animal sales. (more information available later at the SCKA website, [www.hair-sheep.com](http://www.hair-sheep.com))

**June 21, 2010.** Midwest Stud Ram Sale at the Missouri State Fairgrounds. Sedalia, MO. Katahdins will show on June 21<sup>st</sup>. [www.midweststudram.com](http://www.midweststudram.com)

**September 16-18, 2010.** 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Katahdin Hair Sheep International Expo. At Carver Farm, Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Missouri. Contact Jim Morgan, KHSI Operations for more information. 479-444-8441 or [info@katahdins.org](mailto:info@katahdins.org) or Wes Limesand, Expo Sale Committee Chair, 701-235- 2114. (more information will be available at the KHSI website and future issues of the Katahdin Hairald).

## Kat On The Mountain

Land sakes alive, this old ewe has seen so much since we last spoke till my eyes are sore! It all started back in September when I managed to hitch a ride all the way to Virginia with them Burris folks. Now in case ya'll didn't know....that's a far piece from Southwest Mississippi. Poor things, they must be getting on up in age cause they had to stop in Gatlinburg on the way, just to rest up a spell, before they could make the rest of the trip. But I was glad they did 'cause there is shore nuf some pretty country up there.

Now, I hate to admit it, but if it hadn't been for old Kat here, there's just no telling what kind of trouble them folks would have got in. We wasn't in Gatlinburg barely one day when they up and decided that they wanted to go to a place called Cades Cove. From the conversation I overheard, they seemed to think they might get a chance to see some wildlife in that old settlement. Now I know I'm not the sharpest tack in the box, but even I knew there probably weren't any Katahdin there. Shucks, and here I was thinking I'd get a little rest before we made the trip on to that Scott County Hair Sheep Association meeting in Virginia. Not a chance..... There I was minding my own business, when low and behold out of nowhere, not only did we see turkeys and deer, but bear too. And I don't mean just one or two, we saw a total of nine bear while up there. Now, I'm here to tell you folks, even though we never got out of the truck, this old ewe was a might more than a little bit uncomfortable at the sight of them things! I don't know about you, but not a single Katahdin I ever saw had teeth like that!

You know, them Burris' ended up not being near 'bout as smart as I thought they were. After all the bear we saw that day, they got up early the next morning and went back to see if they could see some more "wildlife"! Well sure enough, see some more they did...More turkey, more deer...

and more bear. After 'lolly-gaggin' around in places they were familiar with, they up and decided that they would take a little tour of another area in the mountains they had never been before. I tried to warn 'em that it was getting a might late in the afternoon, but oh no, they wouldn't listen to old Kat here. Everything seemed to be going ok, when they decided they needed to get out of the truck for a better view. And then, lady Burris comes up with the bright idea that she wants to hike up to see a little waterfall. If that wasn't bad enough, even though it was against his better judgment, Mr Burris let her "persuade" him to go too. Now since I surely wasn't about to be left by myself in the truck, we all go! We wasn't 50 feet up the path, when what do we walk right up on----yep, you guessed it -- a bear. But not just any old bear, this was a Mama Bear and she wasn't alone either. She had her two cubs with her! When that old mama bear came towards us and growled, I thought sure as the world, we were 'goners. All I can figure is all that racket my knees was a making when they were knocking together must have scared her off. Needless to say, we didn't stay around to find a waterfall that day.

Now for a little "everything aint always what it seems" lesson. Apparently, after seeing the Goat Tote in the back of our truck, (and obviously not knowing what kind of cage it was ), a nice elderly couple stopped us to ask if the Burris' were some of them "bear catchers who transport bear from one location to the other". Seems that they thought the Goat Tote was a Bear Cage. Little did they know, the only thing we was interested in transporting at that time was ourselves.....as far away from bear as possible.

Once we had a nice restful night in the safety of our hotel room, we headed on to Virginia to get ready for the Scott County Hair Sheep Association

Annual Meeting and Sale on September 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. It was an awesome event filled with educational presentations, meeting some fine folks, eating delicious food, getting to look at and having the opportunity to purchase some outstanding Katahdin, watch some top notch working dogs herding sheep and getting to view some more beautiful country. There were several SCKA members who made the trip and as best as I could tell, everyone had a great time. Jay Greenstone and the SCHSA group did an awesome job of putting this event together. Before leaving Virginia and heading back home, a group of us had the privilege of touring Kenny & Connie Jessee 's farm and sheep operation.

Now, even though they have some awesome animals and a beautiful place, I must say there is one image that will forever be implanted in my mind. Connie Jessie, her and Kenney's grandsons, Sarah Dennis, Mickie Burris (and myself, albeit hidden in the back of the Explorer) rode over to the barn to meet up with the men folk and see the sheep. As we arrive, we see the truck the men were in, but no one inside it. Then low and behold, we look up just in time to see four grown men ( Kenney Jessee, Jay Greenstone, Mark Dennis and Earl Burris ) going up the side of the mountain on one 4-wheeler. Now that was a sight. (Mere words just can't do that image justice). I don't know how they all fit, much less rode up the mountain on it. I guess as the old saying goes, boys will be boys!

Following a short rest after that trip, I hitched another ride with the Burris' as they embarked on yet another mountain road trip. Of course to someone from southwest MS, anywhere with a hill is considered mountainous range. This time, we headed to Booneville, Arkansas for the 2009 USDA, Agricultural Research Service Sheep & Goat Field Day. The event started with a

*Continued from Page 7*

FAMACHA / Parasite Control Workshop on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The meeting resumed early the next morning with a day jam packed with back to back presentations by a diverse group of speakers. They talked about so much stuff till this old ewe's head is still spinning. The Burris' set up and manned the SCKA booth, handed out literature and answered questions pert near all day. At the conclusion of speaker's presentations, we had the opportunity to tour the Research Service Farm and view the animals. It was another very informative and interesting event. (Fortunately, minus any bear.)

Finally, we made it back home in the wee hours of October 25<sup>th</sup> filled with enough knowledge hopefully to sustain them for a while. This old ewe is ready to rest a tad before heading out again any time soon, but I'm sure that when they are ready to hit the road again, I'll be the first one in the truck. As I've said many times before, Katahdin folks are some of the best in the world and I for one am always proud to be in their company.

Guess I've rambled on enough, so until next time I'll sign off for now.

Kat Ahdin

Mark Dennis received the following correspondence from a breeder who ran a WANTED Ad in previous newsletters:

Mark,

I am no longer in the market for lambs. My flock has grown this year and I have enough to meet my needs. So if the want ad is still running, it can be removed.

On October 24 and 25, New Leaf Market Coop sponsored a Farm Tour throughout the Big Bend area, Panhandle and South Georgia. There were 33 farms involved. Our farm had over 350 visitors during the two days. We just about sold out of our product both lamb and goat.

It has taken this full year to create the market by going to farmers markets as well as public relations events. There is really a market for the naturally raised local product. It is somewhat time consuming to get all the licensing and approvals but now that it is all done we're enjoying this new venture.

We are trying to stay a Mom & Pop operation so we don't process a lot at a time. Most of our customers are within a 50 mile range. However, I am getting request from South Florida for the processed meat. I just can't fill those orders.

Bobbie Golden

### WANTED: Katahdins

Anyone may list Katahdins Wanted (free)

Tennessee- Rebuilding flock: in need of 50 yearling Katahdin ewe lambs ready to breed. 931 527 0225 Lynnville, TN.

Kentucky- Feeder Lambs, Katahdin 60 lb in New Year early as possible, will pay top dollar, Four Hills Farm, 859 865-4962 Salvisa, KY, Jim Mansfield

## Roasted Lamb Shanks with Lemon and Herbs

### Ingredients

6 lamb shanks (about 1 1/4 pounds each), excess fat trimmed

5 cloves garlic, sliced

1/2 cup fresh lemon juice

Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper

2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley, plus more for garnish

2 teaspoons minced fresh thyme

2 teaspoons dried marjoram

1 stick unsalted butter, melted, plus more for brushing

12 shallots, unpeeled

Extra-virgin olive oil, for drizzling

### Directions

Make the lamb a day in advance: Make several incisions in the shanks with a paring knife and slide a slice of garlic into each slit. Place the shanks in a large baking dish, drizzle with the lemon juice, turning to coat, and season with salt and pepper on all sides. Mix the parsley, thyme and marjoram in a small bowl, then rub the herbs over the lamb. Cover and set aside at room temperature for 1 hour. After 30 minutes, place a Dutch oven or covered ovenproof pot in the oven and preheat to 500 degrees for

at least 30 minutes. Transfer the shanks to a plate and drizzle with the melted butter; reserve the marinade. Carefully remove the preheated pot from the oven. Working quickly, add the shanks, making sure at least one side of each touches the hot pot. Return the pot to the oven, uncovered, and place the lid on another oven rack to keep it hot. Roast the shanks for 25 minutes. Meanwhile, bring the reserved marinade and 1/2 cup water to a boil in a small saucepan over medium heat. Pour the hot marinade over the shanks, then place a large sheet of heavy-duty foil over the pot and cover with the hot lid. Reduce the oven temperature to 350 degrees and roast 45 minutes, then reduce the temperature to 200 degrees and cook 30 more minutes. Turn off the oven and leave the lamb inside, undisturbed, to finish cooking, 20 minutes. Remove the lamb from the cooking liquid and place in a shallow baking dish. Refrigerate the meat and the sauce separately overnight. When ready to serve, position a rack in the upper third of the oven and preheat to 350 degrees. Drizzle the shallots with olive oil in a small baking dish and season with salt and pepper. Cover the lamb loosely with foil. Bake the lamb and shallots for 25 to 30 minutes, uncovering the lamb and brushing lightly with melted butter after 15 minutes. Meanwhile, discard the fat from the chilled sauce and bring to a simmer over medium heat. Drizzle the finished lamb and shallots with the sauce and garnish with parsley.

## Katahdins For Sale

Only SCKA members may list here. Listings will be renewed every newsletter. SCKA will assist you in buying and selling Katahdin sheep. Keep us informed of your needs by telephone or e-mail. Check the membership list for more information, including all contact information, SCKA members will treat you right! Call for Pricing!

1. Florida -Registered Full-blood Katahdin breeding stock, Big boned, growthy, heavy muscled Ram lambs, born February/ March, 2009. We are sold out of ewe lambs for 2009, now booking for 2010. Flock Certified Scrapie Free. Contact John Cannon, JM Katahdins, Lake City, FL, 386-397-4652, [www.jmkatahdins.com](http://www.jmkatahdins.com) or [johncann@bellsouth.net](mailto:johncann@bellsouth.net).
2. Louisiana - Registered 100% Katahdin Breeding Stock Rams (yearlings) born Feb. 2009 available. Lambs are RR and QR. All sired by RR Country Oak Ranch Ram, COR 06-72 (son of MCD Loaded Wagon, COR 2002-20). Contact: Patrick & Tina Broussard, PTB Farms, at 337/896-2278 or 337/288-6121, or by e-mail at [bruuus@cox.net](mailto:bruuus@cox.net). We are located 1.5 miles North of I-10 near Scott.
3. Louisiana - Taking Orders for 2010 Registered 100% Full Blood Katahdin Ram and Ewe lambs. Lambs are due in Feb/ March. Two blood lines available. Lambs will be RR or QR, white, polled, and vaccinated. Flock is SFCP enrolled. Delivery is possible. Contact: Patrick and Tina Broussard, of PTB Farms, at 337/896-2278 or 337/288-6121, or by e-mail at [bruuus@cox.net](mailto:bruuus@cox.net). We are located 1.5 miles North of I-10 near Scott.
4. Louisiana - Two 2009 superior registered ram lambs sired by outstanding rams. From the finest breeding stock! Benefit from our years of discriminating selection. Sires and dams can be viewed on site. Taking orders now for 2010 lambs. VFCP. Visitors are welcome to come and see this exceptional flock! Isle Navarre Farms; Tommy and Gabrielle Bodin; [isle\\_navarre\\_farms@yahoo.com](mailto:isle_navarre_farms@yahoo.com); [www.louisianasheep.com](http://www.louisianasheep.com); 337.981.8140; located in Scott, Louisiana.
5. Louisiana - Registered 100% Full Blood Katahdin Breeding Stock (only), Ram lambs born Feb/March 2009, RR, twins & triplets, Genetics selected for MEAT, Growth, Large bone, Muscle, Milk, Hair coat, all Vaccinations, Individual Health Record available, making order list for Ram lambs born Feb/March 2010 sired by "New-Generation" and "American-Idol" 100% Full Blood Katahdin Rams, contact- Mark Dennis, Country Oak Ranch, New Iberia, LA. 337 364-0422 [denn907@bellsouth.net](mailto:denn907@bellsouth.net) visit [www.countryoakranch.com](http://www.countryoakranch.com)
6. Mississippi - Registered 100% Katahdin Ram Lambs born Feb '09. Registered 100% Katahdin Ewe Lambs born Apr/ June '09. All lambs are RR or QR. Several mature ewes exposed to PVR 070 "Chief" one of our RR sires. Vaccinations and Health Records available. Certified Scrapie Free Flock. Contact Earl & Mickie Burris, Shackaloe Creek Ranch, Smithdale MS (601) 567-2513, (601) 551-6970 or [Shackaloe@aol.com](mailto:Shackaloe@aol.com) or [www.echota-scrkatahdins.com](http://www.echota-scrkatahdins.com)
7. Tennessee - 2009 lamb crop sold out. Thank you to all of our buyers for making 2009 a successful season. Now taking orders for our 2010 lamb crop. We will have 2 sets of lambs born this year - one set in Dec/Jan and another in Mar/Apr. We are using 4 different sires so plenty of different genetics to choose from. Our herd has been chosen to exhibit those traits most desirable in the Katahdin breed. Health records, weights, EPDS and photos available upon request. Please visit our breeder page at [www.katahdins.org](http://www.katahdins.org). Delivery possible. Mentoring available to new shepherds. Please contact Hidden Springs Katahdins, Jody and Amie Winstead, Powder Springs, TN at 865-742-9702 or 865-497-3882 or by e-mail at [jaw013198@aol.com](mailto:jaw013198@aol.com). (The Lord is my shepherd, Psalm 23).
8. Oklahoma- Commercial/Grade Katahdin Ewe lambs, the kind everyone is looking for to start your Katahdin Meat Operation, all Ewe lambs will be sired by Registered 100% Katahdin Rams, good Commercial/Grade Katahdin Ewe's are in demand, Ewe lambs can be purchased in Starter groups of 10 or more, available June 11 ,2010, get your name on our list for Commercial/Grade Ewe lambs and Registered Katahdin Rams and Ewe lambs born 2010, Demand for Katahdin Meat has never been better in the Market Place, for more information contact Howard Brown, Lazy B Livestock L.L.C., Prague, OK, 405-567-2559, [mapabrown2@yahoo.com](mailto:mapabrown2@yahoo.com) [www.lazybkatahdins.com](http://www.lazybkatahdins.com)
9. Virginia - Registered 100% Full Blood Katahdin Ram and Ewe lambs, taking orders for pick up June 2010, born Feb/ March 2010, Genetics selected for Growth, Muscle, Milk, Hair coat, All Vaccinations, Sired by "Pecan Valley Ranch" PVR 133, RR ("The Old Man") SBR 1145 a Grandson of Goliath, our breeding Ewe's are from "Country Oak Ranch" New Iberia, LA. and "Bluegrass Katahdins" Lexington, KY. all will be RR, twin or triplets, Katahdin participating member of NSIP, Certified Scrapie Free Flock, contact - Kenneth Jessee "Jessee Farm" St. Paul, VA. 276-794-9214 or [Kenneth.jessee@gmail.com](mailto:Kenneth.jessee@gmail.com)
10. Virginia - Taking orders for spring 2010 born ram and ewe lambs. Top quality Katahdin breeding sheep for sale. Pasture raised/rotational grazed daily. Breeding ewes from Country Oak Ranch bred to Lazy B 1403 2nd high selling ram KHSI 2008. All sheep RR, Scrapie certified and NSIP records available on all sheep. Health records available on all sheep. The farm is located minutes from south east Kentucky and Eastern Tennessee in the rolling green hills of extreme south west Va. Jay A. Greenstone, Rt 2 box 542, Rose Hill Va 24281, Home: 276-346-2444, Cell 276-365-2424. E-mail [silvermaplesheep@yahoo.com](mailto:silvermaplesheep@yahoo.com), Web site [www.silvermapleKatahdinsheep.com](http://www.silvermapleKatahdinsheep.com). Consultant Mark Dennis Cell 337-967-0422



## *SCKA Newsletter*

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### *Calendar of Events*

- ◆ January 1-15 2010 SCKA Annual Dues and Web-site fees are due
- ◆ January 1-Feb 1 2010 Katahdin Hair Sheep Coat Inspection for AA Coats ONLY
- ◆ March 15, 2010 Deadline to Submit Ads, Articles, etc. for SCKA April Newsletter
- ◆ May 1, 2010 Katahdin Hair Sheep Coat inspections start date
- ◆ May 15, 2010 Deadline to contact KHSI Operations to Schedule Hair Coat inspection for your flock
- ◆ June 11-12 2010 SCKA Annual Gathering/Meeting/4<sup>th</sup> Private Treaty Sale, Hosted by Howard & Lavonne Brown, Lazy B Livestock LLC, Prague, OK
- ◆ June 21-23 2010 Midwest Stud Ram Sale, Sedalia, MO
- ◆ July 15, 2010 Deadline to Submit Ads, Articles, etc. for SCKA August Newsletter
- ◆ Sept. 10-11 2010 Scott County, VA Hair Sheep Assoc. Annual Field Day & Private Treaty Sale.
- ◆ Sept. 16-18 2010 Katahdin Hair Sheep Int. Expo Annual Gathering & Sale, Hosted by Lincoln University Jefferson City, MO
- ◆ Sept. 30, 2010 Last day to make Katahdin Hair Coat Inspections for 2010
- ◆ Nov. 15, 2010 Deadline to Submit Ads, Articles, etc. for SCKA Dec. Newsletter
- ◆ Nov. 28, 2010 Sail away Day, Katahdin Annual Breeders Cruise on board Royal Caribbean *Oasis of the Seas*